



TAEP Producer Diversification Program

Organics Criteria

For Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010 *

Program Criteria:

- * This information is current as of **June 8, 2009** and is a supplement to the TAEP 2009 Application and Guidelines.
- **Producers** are eligible for the following cost share percentages for qualified expenses:
 - **Standard** - 35% cost share up to a maximum of \$10,000.
 - **Priority** - 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$15,000 for producers meeting special requirements.
- The proposed activity must encompass **quality expansion** or **improvement** of the applicant's business. Eligible categories include:
 - Farm Infrastructure
 - Specialty Equipment
 - Marketing

Competitive Projects – Organics:

Priority is given to projects that are focused on improving or increasing production. Marketing projects are allowed but are not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Priority Cost Share – Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share:

Who is eligible?

- The applicant must be USDA certified organic or working towards certification to qualify
- The applicant must be USDA certified at the time of the reimbursement request

Examples of Eligible Items:

Apple tree liners	Filter system - <i>irrigation</i>	- <i>parking lot</i>
Brochure/flyer	Filter pump – <i>irrigation</i>	<u>Greenhouse-</u>
Cold frames	Flail mower	- <i>covering</i>
Drip emitters	Freezer	- <i>hydroponic</i>
Fan – <i>greenhouse</i>	<u>Gravel-</u>	- <i>overwintering</i>
Fertilizer equipment	- <i>foundation</i>	- <i>shade system</i>
Field planter	- <i>propagation area</i>	- <i>structure</i>

Heater - *greenhouse*
 High tunnel/hoop house
Irrigation -
 - *controller system*
 - *drip*
 - *filter system*
 - *overhead*
 - *pivot*
 - *pump*
Lighting -
 - *greenhouse*
 - *parking*
 - *pavilion/retail shelter*
 - *not for aesthetics*
 Loading area/dock
 Mulch machine
 Mulch layer/lifter
 Packing building
 Packing line equipment

Parking area -
 - *gravel*
 - *pavement*
 - *site preparation*
 - *space markers*
 Pavilion – *retail sales*
 Peach tree liners
 Pond liner- *irrigation system*
 Production line equipment
 Pump – *irrigation, filter*
 Retail shelter
 Roller crimper
 Row covers
 Signs
 Sink - *produce*
 Soil mixer

Spader
 Spray equipment
 Sprayer
 Thermostat – *greenhouse*
 Trellis materials
Vine stock
 - *blackberries*
 - *blueberries*
 - *grapes*
 - *raspberries*
 Walk-in cooler
 Water level control
 Water storage tanks
 Website development
 Wood boiler

Examples of Ineligible Items:

Building – *storage*
 Chemicals
 Computers
 Containers - *bottles, pots*
 Drip tape
 Electrical service
Fees
 - *domain*
 - *hosting*
 - *membership*
 Fencing
 Fertilizer
 Forklift
 Fuel
 Give-a-way items
 Golf Cart
 Insecticides

Labor – *applicant or employees of applicant*
 Landscaping
 Land – *clearing of*
 Livestock
 Maintenance of existing structures
 Meeting expenses
 Merchandise
 Motorized vehicles
 Mower
 Office equipment
 Permits
 Pesticides
 Plants – *liners/plugs*
 Ponds – *digging of for a water source*
 Product development

Property – *purchase or debt payment*
 Renovations of existing structures
 Seeds – *produce, nursery, flowers, etc.*
 Software
 Store - *general*
 Tractor
 Trade show expenses
 Trailers – *livestock*
 Used equipment
 Water source creation – *ponds/wells*
 Website – *annual or hosting fees*
 Wells – *drilling of*

Contact:

- For more information regarding the TAEP Producer Diversification Program, TDA Market Development, and Organics – contact **Jon Frady** at 615-837-5344, **Producer.Diversification@TN.gov**, or **Jon.Frady@TN.gov**.
- Check the web at www.tn.gov/agriculture/enhancement for updates.